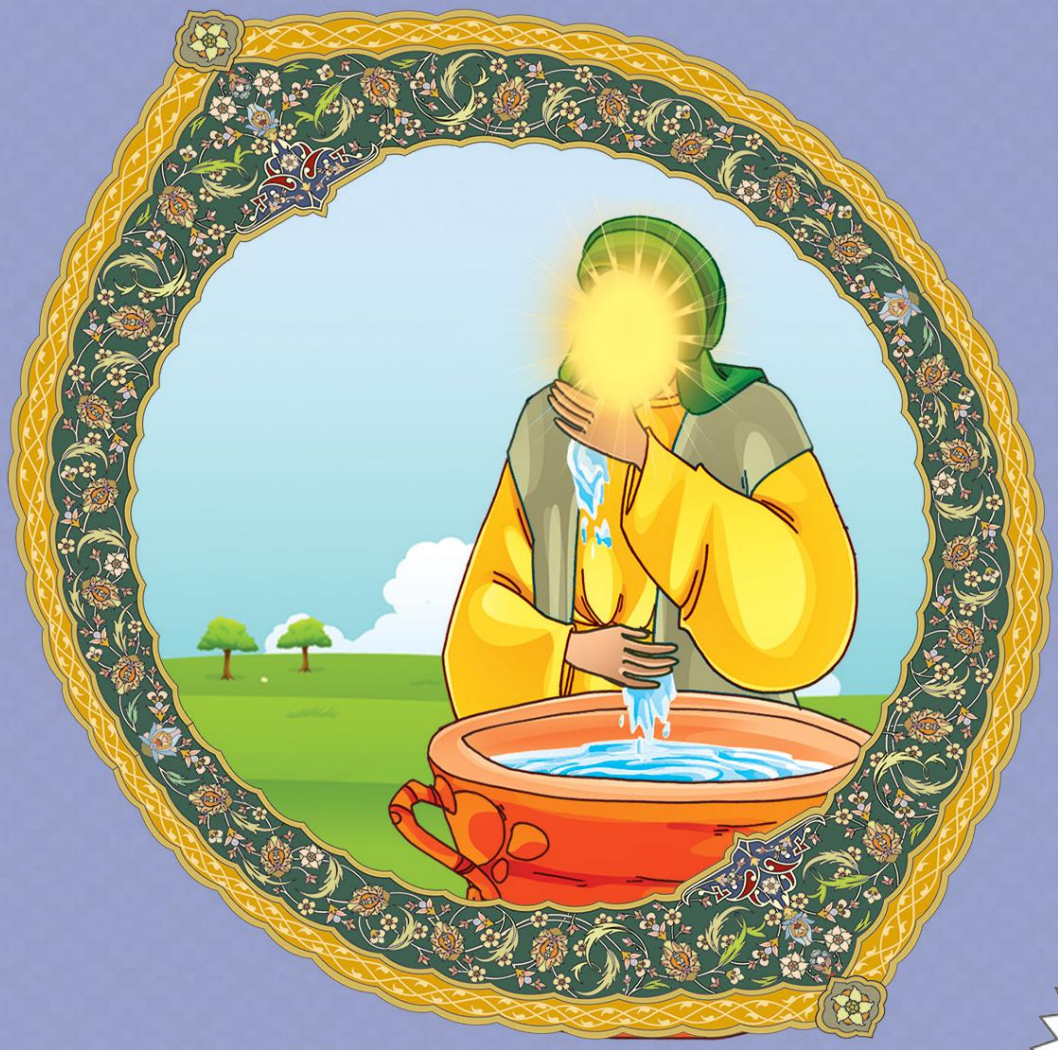
5

THE GUIDING LIGHT

Cleanliness in Islam

A Collection of Quranic Verses and Sayings from the 14 Masumin



SUGGESTED AGES 8+

KISA KIDS PUBLICATIONS

GUIDED BY MOULANA NABI R. MIR (ABIDI)

Disclaimer: Religious texts have ***not*** been translated verbatim so as to meet the developmental and comprehension needs of children.

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the beloved Imām of our time (ʿaj).
May Allah (swt) hasten his reappearance and help us to become his true companions.

Acknowledgments

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): On the Day of Resurrection, the ink of the scholars will be weighed up against the blood of the martyrs, and the ink of the scholars will be heavier than the blood of the martyrs.
Nahj al-Faṣāḥah, Saying #3222.

True reward lies with Allah (swt), but we would like to sincerely thank Brother Aliakbar Shaheidari and Sisters Sabika Mithani, Liliana Villalvazo, Zahra Sabur, Noor Kraus, Fatima Hussain, Sumaiya Mithani, Fizza Moalem, Sajeda Merchant, Shahista Asgaraly, Sarah Assaf, Fatemeh Eslami, Israa Safieddine, Abeda Khimji, Zehra Abbas, Elham Shaheidari, and Rumina Hashmani. We would especially like to thank Nashr Kumeh Publications for their artwork and contributions.

May Allah (swt) bless them in this world and the next.

Marḥūmīn Dedication

For our daughter Shireen Ahsan, who loved the Ahl al-Bayt, and was loved by all around her,
please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah.

Preface

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):
Nurture and raise your children in the best way. Raise them with the love of the Prophets and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

Literature is an influential form of media that often shapes the thoughts and views of an entire generation. Therefore, in order to establish an Islamic foundation for the future generations, there is a dire need for compelling Islamic literature. Over the past several years, this need has become increasingly prevalent throughout Islamic centers and schools everywhere. Due to the growing dissonance between parents, children, society, and the teachings of Islam and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa), this need has become even more pressing. Al-Kisa Foundation, along with its subsidiary, Kisa Kids Publications, was conceived in an effort to help bridge this gap with the guidance of ʿulamāʾ and the help of educators. We would like to make this a communal effort and platform. Therefore, we sincerely welcome constructive feedback and help in any capacity.

The goal of *The Guiding Light* series is to help children learn that Islam is a holistic religion that shows the best way to lead our lives in all different areas!

With Duʿās,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

About the Board ʿĀlim

Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi) is a scholar, an educator, a father, and an enthusiast for creating educational infrastructure and Islamic resources for the benefit of the global community. Always wanting to think 'outside of the box' by supporting the creation of innovative materials to engage young readers to pick up Islamic books, interact with Qurʾānic games, learn from the Steps to Perfection Curriculum, and begin their life-long journey of holistic education.

Being a dedicated student and graduate of *Darse Khārij* from the *Ḥawzah* (the Highest Level of Islamic Studies in the Seminary), Moulana Abidi knows the value of Islamic education. Also, having grown up in India, and now residing in the United States, he has had the honor of traveling to various communities and meeting many community leaders. He values the importance of collaboration and working together to optimize potentials, and to create open source platforms so that information and resources are available and accessible to everyone around the world.

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You, dear reader, are now part of the Al-Kisa family.
Share the word, and join the mission.

5 Cleanliness in Islam

A Collection of Qur'ānic Verses and Sayings from the 14 Ma'sūmīn

Islam places great significance on cleanliness. However, in addition to external cleanliness, it is also good to remain clean internally and ritually. A human being should always try to remain in a state of cleanliness, spiritual purity, and *ṭahārah* (ritual purity). When we attain purity in all three areas, we have fulfilled our prerequisites and are ready to worship Allah in the rightful manner.

Lesson 1

USE PURE WATER FOR CLEANING

وَ اَنْزَلْنَا مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً طَهُوراً

And We sent down from the sky purifying water.

Sūrah al-Furqān, Verse 48

Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) loved inviting people to his house and sharing meals with them. One day, he invited over a friend and his son for dinner. They were both so excited to visit the Imām and share a meal with him! After all, the Imām (ʿa) was a cheerful and loving person, and he always showed extra kindness to his guests.

When they finished eating, the Imām (ʿa) brought a jug of water and a clean towel so that he could wash his guest's hands. Shocked, the man asked, "how can you wash my hands? You are my Imām and leader!" The man could not believe that Imām ʿAlī (ʿa), with all his greatness, was doing something that servants would normally be doing.

The Imām (ʿa) replied, "You are my guest, and I would like the honor of serving you because this is what Allah likes. Please wash your hands carefully and don't feel embarrassed."

The Imām (ʿa) then told his own son, who was sitting next to him to wash the other boy's hands.

The two guests felt very touched by this act of kindness and left the Imām's home feeling humbled.

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 9, P. 598

اِغْسِلُوا أَيْدِيَكُمْ قَبْلَ الطَّعَامِ وَ بَعْدَهُ

Imām Jaʿfar aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa):
Wash your hands before and after you eat.

Al-Maḥāsin, Vol. 2, #1594

Lesson 2

BE CLEAN & PRESENTABLE

وَ اللّٰهُ يُحِبُّ الْمُطَّهِّرِيْنَ

And Allah loves those who stay pure.

Sūrah at-Tawbah, Verse 108

One day, a friend of the Prophet (ṣ) was coming over to his house. Knowing this, the Prophet (ṣ) dressed up, washed his face, combed his hair, and put on some fragrance.

He had a habit of always being clean and smelling nice.

When his wife saw how he took the time and effort to prepare for his guest, she asked, "why did you do all of that?"

He replied, "Allah loves for us to look neat and clean when meeting our friends."

Makārim al-Akhlāq, P. 51

خُذُوا مِنْ شُعُورِكُمْ وَ اسْتَاكُوا وَ تَزَيَّنُوا

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):
Take care of your hair, brush your teeth, and beautify yourselves.

Kanz al-ʿUmmāl, Vol. 6, P. 640

Lesson 3

WEAR CLEAN CLOTHES

وَ ثِيَابَكَ فَطَهِّرْ

And purify your clothes.

Sūrah al-Muddathir, Verse 4

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ) cared a lot about being clean and always smelling good. One day, he saw a pile of laundry lying around his home, so he began to wash the clothes.

Moments later, his wife came up to him and offered, “O Prophet, let me wash them!” He was very happy with her offer and accepted her help.

As they washed the clothes together, he taught her, "Everything, even clothes, praise Allah (by doing dhikr),” he said. “But when clothes become dirty, all of that stops."

Mīzān al-Ḥikmah, Vol. 10, P. 940

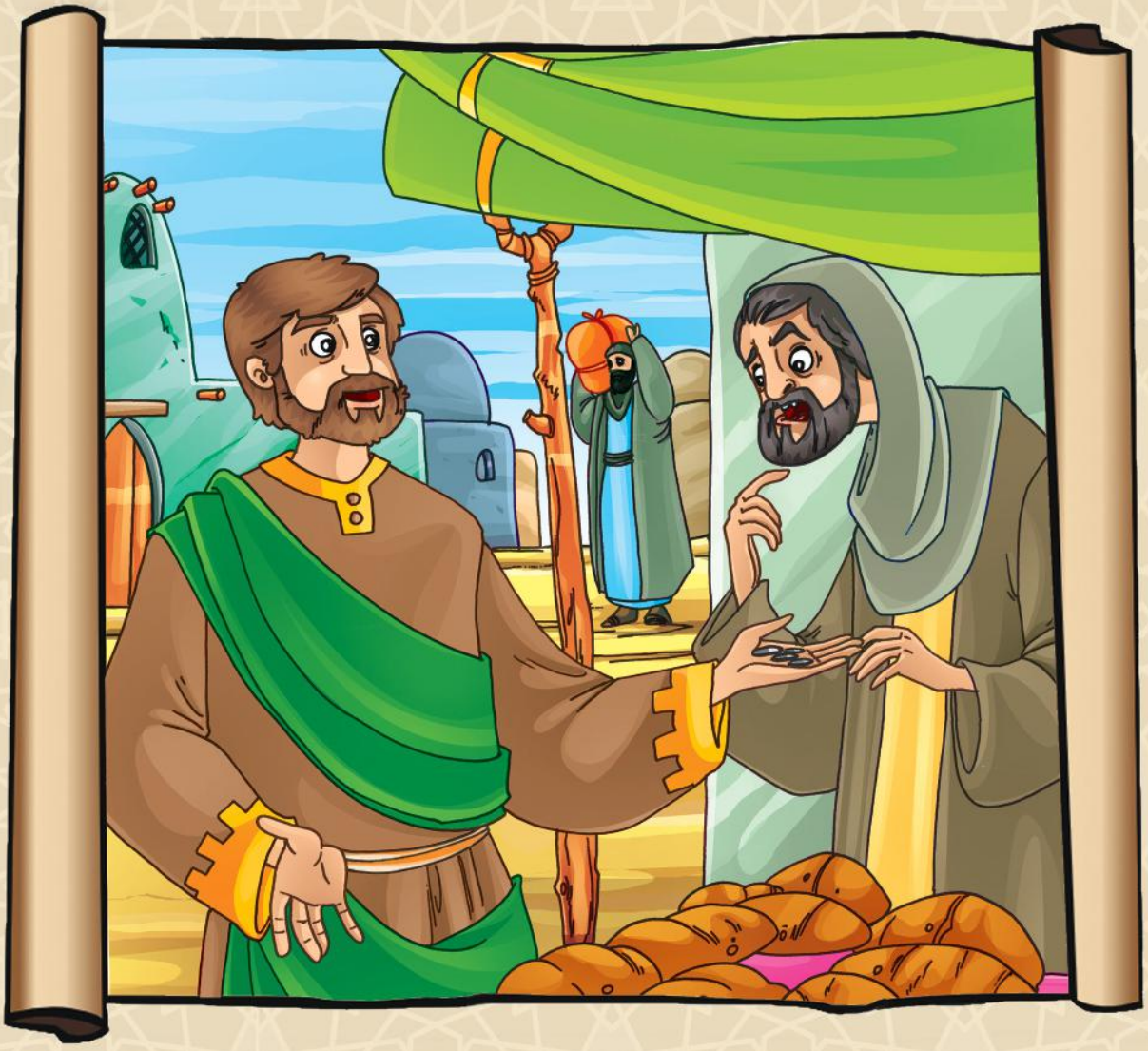
اِغْسِلُوا ثِيَابَكُمْ وَ تَنَظَّفُوا

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):
Wash your clothes and be clean.

Kanz al-ʿUmmāl, Vol. 6, P. 640

Lesson 4

EAT PURE FOOD



فَلْيَنْظُرْ اَيُّهَا اَزْكَىٰ طَعَاماً

Let him find out which of them has the purest food.

Sūrah al-Kahf, Verse 19

Many years ago, in the city of Rome, it was illegal to worship Allah, the One. If anyone believed and worshipped one God, the evil king would torture and even kill them.

There was one group of young people who wanted to worship Allah freely, so they escaped from the city and hid inside a cave. The king's army searched for them everywhere, but Allah protected them by sealing the cave with a huge boulder. Then, Allah allowed them to sleep for many, many years — 300 years to be exact! This is why they are now known as The People of the Cave (*Aṣḥāb ul-Kahf*).

In Sūrah al-Kahf, Allah says that when He finally woke them up from their sleep, they had no idea how long they had been sleeping. They thought they might have been asleep for a few hours, or maybe even a full day. The only thing they knew for sure was that they felt very hungry! Even though they thought it was risky to leave, they decided that one of them would go back to the city to buy some food for everyone. Before leaving, one of them advised him, "And be sure to buy food from a clean and pure place."

Even though they had not eaten for 300 years, The People of the Cave still made sure that the food they ate was pure and *ḥalāl*.

Tafsīr an-Namūnah

مِنْ اَخْلَاقِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ التَّنَظُّفُ

Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa):
It is from the manners (akhlāq) of the Prophets to be clean.

Muntakhab Mīzān al-Ḥikmah, #6167

Lesson 5

KEEP THE CITY CLEAN

بَلْدَةٌ طَيِّبَةٌ

A clean, pure city.

Sūrah Sabāʾ, Verse 15

It was a sunny day in the city of Medina when the fourth Imām, Imām as-Sajjād (ʿa), was walking through town with some friends. As they were passing through one of the streets, they noticed that it was quite dirty; there were rocks and rubble everywhere!

Without saying a word, the Imām (ʿa) gently got off his horse and bent down to gather the rocks with his blessed hands.

His friends looked surprised, wondering why he would stop in the middle of the street. One of them finally asked, "May my mother and father be sacrificed for you!* What are you doing?"

The Imām (ʿa) turned toward his friends and said, "These rocks are in the middle of the way, and someone might get hurt."

After hearing this, the men immediately came down from their horses to help the Imām (ʿa) clean the streets. As they pushed aside the rocks, they thought about how blessed they were to spend time with the Imām (ʿa). He was always inspiring them to do good and help others.

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 75, P. 160

*In our aḥādīth and duʿās, when someone wants to show the highest level of loyalty and love toward another person, they use this expression.

اُكْنُسُوا اَفْنِيَتَكُمْ

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):
Sweep the front of your houses.

Nahj al-Faṣāḥah, P. 296

Quiz Time!

1. Imam aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa) advises us to _____ before and after eating.
   a. say *bismillāh*
   b. wash our hands
   c. do wuḍūʾ

2. In verse 108 of Sūrah at-Tawbah, we learn that Allah loves those who are always _____.
   a. pure
   b. nice
   c. honest

3. Why did the Prophet (ṣ) say that it was so important to clean dirty clothes?
   a. Because everything, even clothes, recite Allah's *dhikr*.
   b. Because being clean makes you look nice in front of other people.
   c. Because after a while, you might get annoyed by the smell of dirty clothes.

4. When the People of the Cave woke up from their deep sleep and decided to search for food, they made sure to find food that was _____.
   a. delicious
   b. vegetarian
   c. pure

5. What does the Prophet (ṣ) advise us to do in front of our homes?
   a. Wait outside to invite strangers in
   b. Plant a garden with fruits and flowers
   c. Sweep and clean the area

6. Name three things that you can do on a daily basis to stay clean.

Email your answers to QUIZZES@KISAKIDS.ORG, and we will send you a certificate!

Glossary

(ṣ): Peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muḥammad and his family

(swt): All Glory belongs to God, the Glorified and Exalted

(ʿa): Peace and blessings be upon him/her

(ʿaj): May God hasten his reappearance

Aḥādīth: Traditions from the Noble Prophet of Islam

Ahl al-Bayt: Divinely appointed family members of Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ)

al-Fātiḥah: The first *sūrah* that is commonly recited and sent as a gift of prayer for the deceased

Alḥamdulillāh: All praise is for God

Allah: The Arabic term for God, a culmination of all His holy names and titles

Aṣḥāb ul-Kahf: People of the Cave

Bismillāh: (I begin) In the name of God

Dhikr: Remembrance of God

Duʿāʾ: Supplication; a deep connection and communication between an individual and God

Ḥalāl: Permissible

Imām: A divinely appointed leader, sometimes refers to a spiritual leader

Imām aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa): The 6th Imām (divine leader); his name means the truthful

Imām as-Sajjād (ʿa): The 4th Imām (divine leader); his name means the one who frequently does sajdah (prostration)

Imām ʿAlī (ʿa): The 1st Imām (divine leader); his name means the exalted

InshāʾAllāh: God-willing

Marḥūmīn: Someone who has passed away

Maʿṣūmīn: Infallibles

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): The last and final Messenger of God

Qurʾān: The Holy Book of Muslims

SubḥānAllāh: All Glory and Praise belongs to God

Sūrah: A chapter of the Qurʿān

Ṭahārah: Ritual Purity

Wuḍūʾ: Ablution performed before prayer and other acts of worship

ʿUlamāʾ: Scholars

Transliteration Chart

Arabic terms in this book have been transliterated according to the following guidelines*:

ء	a, i, or u (initial form)
ء	ʾ (medial or final form)
ا	a
ب	b
ت	t
ث	th
ج	j
ح	ḥ
خ	kh
د	d
ذ	dh
ر	r
ز	z
س	s
ش	sh
ص	ṣ
ض	ḍ
ط	ṭ
ظ	ẓ
ع	ʿ
غ	gh
ف	f
ق	q
ك	k
ل	l
م	m
ن	n
ه	h
و	w
ي	y

ـَ	a
ـِ	i
ـُ	u
ـّ	double letter
آ / ـَا / ىٰ	ā
ـِي	ī
ـُو	ū

*Please note that due to limitations, the transliteration is not 100% accurate in capturing tajwīd rules.

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